

TABLES



Table 1. Chronological Summary of Events Important to the Delta

Year	Activity
The following reclamation, water management, and legislative activities greatly influenced and shaped the current Delta system of waterways and islands:	
1849	Settlers began arriving in the Delta to farm its rich soils. The majority of the Delta was marsh land prior to subsequent reclamation and conversion to agricultural lands.
1850	Congress passed the Federal Swamp and Overflow Act, which provided for the title of wetlands to be transferred from the federal government to the states.
1861	The California Legislature authorized the State Reclamation District Act. As a result of state and federal legislation, swamp and overflow land was sold and reclaimed for agricultural use by construction of levees. The Delta was transformed from a large tidal marsh to a system of improved channels and levees by the early 1900s.
1880	By now most of the Delta has been reclaimed.
1884	Discharge of hydraulic mining debris into California rivers declared illegal.
1902	Congress passed the Reclamation Act for development of irrigated lands in the western United States.
1911	The Reclamation Board was created by the California Legislature.
1933	Congress authorized the Central Valley Water Project (CVP).
	The Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel, which extends from the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers to the City of Stockton, was completed.
1940	The Contra Costa Canal, which exports water from the south Delta to the Bay Area, was completed. This was the first unit of the CVP that used existing channels to convey water through the Delta for export.
1944	Shasta Dam and Reservoir, a key feature of the CVP used to capture and store water, was completed. This project provided additional water to Delta channels during low-flow periods.
1951	The Delta-Mendota Canal, which exports water from the Delta via the Tracy Pumping Plant to the San-Joaquin Valley, was completed. This unit of the CVP increases exports from the Delta.
	The Delta Cross Channel, which aids transfer of water from the Sacramento River across the Delta to the Tracy Pumping Plant, was completed.
1959	The Delta Protection Act was enacted by the California Legislature to protect, conserve, develop, control, and use the waters of the Delta for the public good.
1960	Voters approved the State Water Resources Development Bond Act (also known as the Burns-Porter Act) to help finance the initial facilities of the State Water Project (SWP). These facilities included master levees, control structures, channel improvements, and appurtenant facilities in the Delta that are used for water conservation, water supply in the Delta, transferring water across the Delta, and flood and salinity control.
	The Sacramento River Flood Control Project, authorized by Congress, was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This project incorporated and improved certain Delta levees to provide improved flood control for a portion of the Delta. These levees are commonly referred to as "project" levees.

Table 1. Chronological Summary of Events Important to the Delta (Continued)

Year	Activity
1963	The Sacramento Deep Water Ship Channel, which extends from the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, was completed.
1967	<p>Oroville Dam and Reservoir, which provides increased channel flows during low-flow periods, was completed. This is a key feature of the SWP and includes the Feather River Fish Hatchery to replace spawning areas lost as a result of the dam.</p> <p>The first stage of the Harvey O. Banks Delta Pumping Plant, another unit of the SWP, was completed along with the John E. Skinner Fish Facility. Diversions began from the Delta to the California and South Bay Aqueducts of the SWP.</p> <p>Construction of Clifton Court Forebay located in the south Delta began. This unit of the SWP facilitates export of water from the Delta.</p>
1971	The State Water Resources Control Board adopted Delta Water Rights Decision 1379, establishing Delta water quality standards to be met by the CVP and SWP.
1973	The California Legislature recognized that the Delta levee system benefits many segments and interests of the public and approved a plan to preserve the Delta levee system. The Delta Levee Maintenance Subvention Program (Senate Bill [SB] 541) was enacted to provide state funding and technical assistance for maintenance and rehabilitation of non-project Delta levees.
1976	The California Legislature adopted a conceptual plan for improvement of Delta levees (the Nejedly-Mobley Delta Levees Act). The plan for improvement of the Delta levees, as set forth in California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin No. 192, dated May 1975, was approved as the conceptual plan to guide the formulation of projects in order to preserve the integrity of the Delta levee system.
1986	<p>Congress passed the DWR and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation historic accord, the CVP-SWP Coordinated Operation Agreement.</p> <p>The California Supreme Court confirmed the State Water Resources Control Board's broad authority and discretion over water rights and water quality issues in the Bay/Delta system, including jurisdiction over the federal CVP.</p>
1988	<p>Barker Slough Pumping Plant, which provides water from the northwest Delta for the North Bay aqueduct, was completed.</p> <p>Suisun Marsh salinity control gates, which aid in controlling water quality in the marsh for protection of waterfowl, were completed.</p> <p>SB 34, the Delta Flood Protection Act of 1988, was enacted, creating the Special Flood Control Project Program for eight islands in the western Delta and the towns of Thornton and Walnut Grove. This act amended the Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program and established a special account in the California Water Fund for appropriation by the Legislature for mitigation activities.</p>
1991	Environmental Mitigation and Protection Requirements (SB 1065 and Assembly Bill [AB] 360) were enacted, amending the Delta Flood Protection Act of 1988. Sections were added to the California Water Code to establish coordination between the Resources Agency, DWR, the Reclamation Board, and the Department of Fish and Game to ensure that flood protection activities resulted in no net loss of riparian, wildlife, or fishery habitat.

Table 1. Chronological Summary of Events Important to the Delta (Continued)

Year	Activity
1992	<p>The Delta Protection Act of 1992 established the Delta Protection Commission. The Commission has developed a regional, comprehensive long-term resources management plan for the Delta to protect, maintain, and, where possible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the Delta environment. The act acknowledges that agricultural land in the Delta is of significant value, including its function of providing open space and habitat for waterfowl using the Pacific Flyway. All local general plans for areas in a designated Primary zone and within the boundaries of the Delta are required to be consistent with the Delta Protection Commission regional plan.</p> <p>Congress passed the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Public Law [PL] 102-575).</p>
1994	<p>State and federal agencies and representatives signed the Bay-Delta Accord.</p>
1995	<p>The CALFED Bay-Delta Program was initiated.</p>
1996	<p>Proposition 204, the Safe, Clean, Reliable Water Supply Act was approved by the voters to fund a variety of Delta improvements and local programs that were designed to address California water needs, including Delta levee system improvements.</p>